Harold Weisberg
Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
12/21/74

Mr. Donald Stanley
Book Review Editor
San Francisco Examiner
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Stanley,

Back in 1966 you were perhaps the only professional book reviewer to treat Whitewas and its "strange" history (I think you called it that) with seriousness. Most ignored it, apparently in the hope it would go away and the troubling questions, about publishing and about the country, would just go away.

It hasn't and I haven't and neither will even now.

The history is longer but consistent. That and subsequent books have been part of it and I think it will be recorded more than now, have helped make a few changes. The amending of the Freedom of Information law (Congressional Record 5/30/74) was influenced. And the current successes in the defense of James Earl Ray and the effort to get him a (the first) trial stem directly from my Frame-Up.

Frame-Up provided the beginning of a real Ray defense and a real investigation. Since it appeared I have been his unpaid and unpublicized investigator. Beginning before he took the District of Columbia bars my colleague in the new and fourth of the Whitewash series started working on the legal end. While he today is still the junior counsel he is, in fact, doing virtually all the legal work.

Also unpublicized is the fact thatby January 6 the Supreme Court wants arguments from us and the State of Tennessee on a new precedent we have established, the right to dicovery of a habeas corpus petitioner.

(We do not seek publicity and what we swept from the oblivion of official files makes the Ellsberg case look like support of the Constitution.)

The problems of which you wrote have not ended. Most of the whoëssalers just didn't pay, which made their distribution of my three earlier Whitewash books a futility and a dead loss. Without means one can't sue, especially in foreign jurisdictions.

When initial effort with this fourth Whitewash was a replay of the history of the first, because at 61 I can't responsibly increase my debt my young colleague, whose first real case the Ray case is, borrowed the money to pay the printer. Appearance of the book was delayed by our joint effort before and during the Ray evidentiary hearing on which there should be a decision before too long.

The book is available from me only. I spend part of each day making up and mailing packages. As a one-man publisher I am also a one-man shipping department. Virtually all sales to date are from radio shows I do by phone. Major news attention (WxPost syndication, AP and UPI stories) attracted radio interest but, with no address, almost no sales. No books in stores, of course. However, the radio stations are giving my addess and the by-mail cost, $6.25, and people send a check and a note. If this is a hell of a way to publish a book, for me there is no practical alternative.

I am also a one-man promotion department. As I remember and find time I write those who said something, whether or not favorable, to see if they are interested. If you are please let me know and I'll send you a copy. I enclose a flyer that gives a notion of the content.

Sincerely,
Harold Weisberg